

OSWALD SLAIN!

Accused J.F.K. Killer Hit in Jail



GUNMAN MOVES IN—A man identified as Jack Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner, steps out with a

gun at point-blank range a moment before Lee Harvey Oswald charged with President's assassination,

was himself shot and killed in Dallas. Neither Oswald nor detective beside him notice the gunman.

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Owner of Nightclubs Breaks Dallas Police Line to Fire Bullet

By Robert E. Thompson
Los Angeles Times News Service

DALLAS—Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy, was shot and killed Sunday in Dallas police headquarters by a local nightclub owner.

Oswald, the 24-year-old Communist sympathizer, who was charged with killing President Kennedy Friday, died one hour and 45 minutes after he was shot by Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby.

Police Chief Jesse E. Curry told newsmen that "Oswald expired at 1:07 p.m." The chief, who had taken what he thought was every conceivable precaution to protect the life of the man who shot Mr. Kennedy, was in somber mood.

A Dallas attorney, who had rushed to police headquarters to offer to defend Ruby, reported that his wife had received two telephone calls threatening the attorney's death.

Warning Phoned

C. A. Droby said a man with a heavy foreign accent had called his wife and told him that "Droby would be the next to die if he defended Ruby." Droby said he would have defended Ruby if Ruby desired his counsel.

Three of the major criminal lawyers in Dallas appeared at the police station and offered their assistance to Ruby within two hours after he shot Oswald in police headquarters.

The attorneys are Fred Bruner, Tom Howard and Sam Daughterty.

The incident was in dramatic contrast to the fact that no attorney volunteered to defend Oswald between the time he was arrested Friday as Mr. Kennedy's murderer and the time he died Sunday afternoon.

Oswald died in the same hospital where Mr. Kennedy died Friday afternoon.

Faces Murder Charge

Police said Ruby will be charged with Oswald's murder. They also disclosed that his actual name is Jack Rubinstein.

Ruby, 42, owner of the Carousel and the Club Vegas, stepped through a mass of police and newspaper reporters to fire a bullet directly into the stomach of the thin, short pro-Communist accused of Mr. Kennedy's murder.

The incredible scene was enacted in the basement garage of police headquarters as Oswald was being led to an armored truck.

Oswald was carried away unconscious to Parkland Hospital, where Mr. Kennedy died Friday afternoon after being struck in the head by two bullets allegedly fired by Oswald's rifle.

He was hurried into sur-

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ACCUSED KENNEDY ASSASSIN KILLED.

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legally fired by Oswald's rifle.

He was hurried into surgery immediately upon his arrival at the hospital. Doctors worked feverishly to repair "a massive injury to organs and massive loss of blood," but the effort was futile. The bullet had passed through Oswald's spleen, pancreas, aorta, kidney and liver.

Ruby, well known to Dallas police as an outgoing nightclub proprietor, came to Dallas about 15 years ago from Chicago. He was described by friends as "very emotional." Although his associates were not certain whether he is a Democrat or a Republican, they reported that he was an admirer of President Kennedy.

It was 11:20 a.m. when Oswald was led out onto the garage ramp where he was to be placed into a huge gray armored truck. As he stepped onto the ramp, Ruby, wearing a gray hat, stepped up as if to shake hands with the accused.

Detective B. H. Combest, who was standing in the hallway as Oswald was led to the ramp, saw Ruby, recognized him and noticed he had a gun in his hand.

Combest said to Ruby, "Jack, you s.o.b."

At that very moment, Ruby fired the shot that went into Oswald's left side.

The bullet, fired from a 38-caliber revolver, did not emerge, however, from Oswald's right side. Oswald grabbed his stomach and cried out, "Oh!"

Dove and Fired

As Oswald was carried away in the ambulance he still was moaning, and was ghostly pale.

Detective Roy Lowry, who was walking on Oswald's right, said Ruby "dove out of the crowd and as he dove he fired."

Lowry added: "He didn't say anything."

At least eight police jumped on Ruby, pushed him back against the basement wall and down onto the floor. They then rushed him upstairs to a jail cell on the same floor where Oswald had been held since his arrest Friday afternoon.

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade, who had pledged to seek the death penalty for Oswald, said he will also attempt to send Ruby to the electric chair.

Wade said he will present the case against Ruby to the grand jury within the next week and that he probably will be tried in January.

"The assassination of a man under arrest and handcuffed is a very aggravated case," Wade said.

Saw Him Friday

Ironically, Wade said that he saw Ruby "in this very room Friday night" when Oswald was brought before newsmen.

"I think he asked a question or answered one," Wade said. "I didn't know who he was."

Atty. Tom Howard, who will represent Ruby, reported that Oswald's assailant was "in a state of shock."

Howard conferred with Ruby in the nightclub owner's jail cell. According to Howard, Ruby was terribly upset.

Howard told newsmen when he talked to Ruby the accused murderer was "almost out of his mind." He said Ruby was on the verge of tears and near nervous collapse right after the shooting.

Howard said Ruby was suffering from "temporary insanity" when he shot Oswald and indicated that would be his defense in court.

Later Howard was asked pointedly if he planned to claim temporary insanity at Ruby's trial. Ruby was temporarily insane if his mental condition was the same at the time of the shooting as it was an hour later, Howard replied.

Howard also denied any knowledge of an asserted prior connection between Ruby and Oswald as claimed by Bill Demar, a performer with a memory act at Ruby's Club Carousel.

Demar told police he saw Oswald in the club last week.

When asked if he knew of any connection between the two men, Howard replied "absolutely none" and added that he felt evidence at Ruby's trial will prove this contention.

Asked about Ruby's motive, Howard replied:

"I know he was a great admirer of the President and police officers."

Oswald also was charged with killing J. D. Tippit, a Dallas police officer.

Mrs. Eva Grant, Ruby's sister, was allowed later Sunday to talk briefly on a phone with her brother who was on the other side of a plate glass window.

Newsmen overheard him say, "I couldn't help it."

'Don't Worry'

She said Ruby told her: "Take care of yourself and don't worry. I'm in good health. The FBI and the officers are treating me well. I've got friends."

The 55-year-old Dallas woman, who manages her brother's Club Vegas, had been brought in for questioning.

Her face was covered with a lavender veil and her body shook with sobs as she later told newsmen how her brother was affected by the death of the President.

She said he was crying when he called her Friday to tell her of the President's death. "He took it harder than the death of our father five years ago," she said.

Preyed on His Mind

Since then the tragedy preyed on his mind, she said, and added that he talked incessantly of what sorrow he felt for Mrs. Kennedy and her two children.

His grief grew as time passed, she said. She said on Saturday Ruby wept at a television documentary on Mr. Kennedy's life.

"He loved the President," she said. "He loved every President. That's the problem."

The assault on Oswald's life came at a moment when federal, state and local police were convinced that they had all the evidence necessary to convict Oswald of the brutal assassination of Mr. Kennedy and the murder of officer Tippit.

Police announced Saturday that they planned to transfer Oswald to the county jail on Sunday morning where he would be under the jurisdiction of the sheriff.

The county jail is situated at the corner of Main and Houston Sts. a few yards from the spot where Mr. Kennedy was shot as he motored through Dallas.

Because of several telephone threats against Oswald during the night, police put both Oswald and the

city under an unusually heavy guard Sunday morning. Ostensibly, only police and newspaper reporters were permitted in the basement garage through where Oswald was to be led to the armored car.

No one seemed to know

also was seen Saturday afternoon in the crowded third-floor corridors through which Oswald was led for interrogation.

Ruby is a short man who is nearly bald. His Club puts on strip-tease shows and the Club Vegas is a rock-and-roll place.

Ruby has a police record of misdemeanor arrests in Dallas, stretching back to 1949.

Police said he was arrested in February, 1949, for disturbing the peace; in July

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